

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-19, 23-28, 32-37, and 41-56 are pending in the present application.

Claims 15, 24, and 33 are amended by the present response.

The Advisory Action of January 10, 2008 maintained the rejections of the claims noted in the Final Office Action of October 15, 2007. The Final Office Action indicated that Claims 15-19, 23-28, 32-37, 41-43, 46-48, 51-53, and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Daily et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0123320, herein "Daily") in view of Brown et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0070631, herein "Brown"), and Claims 44, 45, 49, 50, 54 and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Daily in view of Brown and Johnston et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,561,444, herein "Johnston").

The rejections of the claims are respectfully traversed in view of the enclosed claim amendments. Independent Claims 15, 24, and 33 have been amended to more clearly recite that one image is displayed together with additional information related to that image while the other images are not displayed. The claim amendments find support, for example, in Figures 18-20 and their corresponding disclosure in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Briefly recapitulating, independent Claim 15 is directed to a method for interfacing with a plurality of images, in which each of the plurality of images represents a selectable media item. The method includes, among other steps, displaying the

plurality of images aligned relative to one another in rows and columns at a first semantic level of a user interface, enlarging one of the plurality of images in response to a cursor movement, where the one of the plurality of images overlaps at least one of the plurality of images at the first semantic level of the user interface, and displaying the one of the plurality of images together with additional information associated with the one of the plurality of images while non-displaying the remaining of the plurality of images, after enlarging the one of the plurality of images and prior to launching a media item represented by the one of said plurality of images. Independent Claims 24 and 33 have been amended to recite features that are similar to those of independent Claim 15.

In a non-limiting example, Figure 18 shows the plurality of images (each image shows a corresponding movie) at a first semantic level. Figure 19 shows that one of the images is enlarged (the image showing the Apollo 13 movie) in response to a cursor movement. Figure 20 shows that the image including the Apollo 13 movie is displayed together with additional information (text) while the remaining images (those that include other movies, see Figures 18 and 19) are not displayed. Further, the sequence of Figure 18 to 20 indicates that displaying the image including Apollo 13 together with the additional information is performed after enlarging the image and prior to launching a media item associated with the image (i.e., the movie Apollo 13).

The claimed method advantageously allows a user to easily browse through plural images associated with data, to enlarge one of the images for a better view, and to provide, if the user desires, *additional information* besides the selected image as disclosed in the specification, for example, in paragraph [0075].

Turning to the applied art, Daily discloses a method and system for providing an interactive guide for multimedia selection. In this respect, Daily shows in Figure 1(a) a “screenshot depicting an embodiment of the present invention in which program sources are categorized by program type, e.g., general entertainment, movies, music, news, pay-per-view, etc., with each category providing access to media source or to other navigational layers.”¹

Figure 1(a) of Daily shows only icons corresponding to generic categories like “movies” or “music” and no icons that are specifically linked to a media item that may be launched. In other words, by selecting any icon shown by Daily in Figure 1(a), no media item is launched, contrary to the independent claims. In this regard, Daily specifically discloses in paragraph [0039] that “[b]y selecting a category or provider, the interactive guide dynamically zooms **into the next layer**, displaying the **contents of that ‘node’** within the database of data sources as a panel such as that shown in **FIG. 1(a)**” (emphasis added).

The Final Office Action takes the position that Daily discloses in paragraph [0059] that by clicking on an icon, a media item associated with that icon is launched. However, this argument of the Final Office Action is not accurate because the icons shown in Figure 1(a) of Daily do not launch any media item, they are only used to advance to a next level of details.

Thus, Daily does not teach or suggest that the icons shown in Figure 1(a) are linked to media items.

¹ See Daily, paragraph [0039].

Assuming arguendo that Figure 1(b) shows a plurality of images associated with media items, Daily fails to teach or suggest that by selecting one of these images, the other displayed images are not displayed while the selected image is displayed together with additional information, as recited by the independent claims. On the contrary, Figure 1(b) appears to suggest that the additional information is already displayed for each shown movie and no other image is non-displayed, i.e., all the images are maintained on the display together with the additional information.

The Final Office Action relies on paragraph [0037] of Daily for disclosing enlarging an icon and showing additional information related to the enlarged icon. However, that paragraph of Daily is silent to whether the other icons on the screen are removed while the selected icon together with the associated information are displayed, as recited by the independent claims.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that irrespective of which configuration of icons (Figure 1(a) or 1(b)) is selected in Daily, this reference fails to teach or suggest displaying the selected icon together with additional information while non-displaying the remaining of the icons that were previously displayed.

The outstanding Office Action relies on Brown for teaching selecting an image such that the image overlaps other images adjacent to the selected image. However, Brown does not cure the deficiencies of Daily discussed above with regard to independent Claim 15.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 15, 24, and 33 and each of the claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over Daily and Brown, either alone or in combination.

Johnston has been considered but does not cure the deficiencies of Daily and Brown discussed above with regard to independent Claims 15, 24, and 33. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 44, 45, 49, 50, 54 and 55, which depend from independent Claims 15, 24, and 33, also patentably distinguish over Daily, Brown, and Johnston, either alone or in combination.

Regarding dependent Claims 43, 48, and 53, these claims recite providing a transition effect between the display of the one of the plurality of images at the first semantic level and at the second semantic level. The outstanding Office Action considers that Daily discloses this feature in paragraphs [0039], [0049], [0054] and [0055]. However, no transition effect is disclosed by Daily in the above noted paragraphs or other paragraphs. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the next Office Action indicates more specifically where in Daily the transition effect is disclosed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 43, 48, and 53 also patentably distinguish over Daily, Brown, and Johnston, either alone or in combination.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response or the application in general, she or he is invited to contact the undersigned at (540) 361-2601.

Respectfully submitted,

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